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APRIL 6.

Mr. JOHN H. REDFIELD in the chair.

Twenty-five persons present.

Permission having been given, Prof. Heilprin withdrew his paper entitled "On a Giant *Conorbis* from the Oligocene of Florida."

The death of Charles Wilt, a member, was announced.

*Fresh-water Sponges from Newfoundland: A new Species.*—Mr. EDWARD POTTS stated that in the latter part of August, 1885, Mr. A. H. MacKay, of Pictou, Nova Scotia, whose success as a collector of fresh-water sponges in his own neighborhood has been already recorded (*Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila.*, 1884, p. 215, etc.), made a scientific visit to the island of Newfoundland. His explorations were mainly limited to the irregular peninsula of Avalon, the southeasterly extremity of the island, and the record of his collections beside mentioning the neighborhood of the city of St. Johns, embraces such familiar names as Trinity Bay, Harbor Grace, and Heart's Content, the landing place of the Atlantic cable.

He writes "I was extremely sorry that owing to my limited time and the impenetrability of the interior to any ordinary effort, I could not gain access to the great lakes in the heart and the western portion of the island. I have merely made a dip into a few of the ponds on the N. (?) E. coast." These are more particularly mentioned as Virginia and Ouidi Vidi Lakes, near St. Johns; Lady Lake, Bannerman Lake, Rocky Lake and Carbonear Lake, small bodies of water near Harbor Grace; and other lakelets and brooks upon the rocky ridges and near the sea level between Harbor Grace and Heart's Content. All this region is described as "the Canadian Huronian, the equivalent of the English Cambrian," and the collections were generally limited to the shallow margins of the ponds, where the sponges were found upon the under sides of splinters of hard slaty quartzites, in numbers very plentiful, but generally small; "from mere points to an inch or more in diameter."

It is to be regretted that the date of Mr. MacKay's visit was necessarily so early in the year, as the specimens collected were either immature or contained only the degenerate statoblasts of the preceding season. The information gathered as to the range